



## City of Blue Ridge City Council Meeting

### Minutes

May 17, 2022

5:00 p.m.

Blue Ridge City Hall  
480 West First Street  
Blue Ridge, Ga 30513

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#### 1. Call Meeting to Order

Mayor Rhonda Haight called the meeting to order at 5:00 pm. Present were Mayor Rhonda Haight, Council Members William Whaley, Angie Arp, Jack Taylor, Christy Kay, Bill Bivins (via phone call), City Attorney Chuck Conerly. City Administrator Eric Soroka and City Clerk Amy Mintz.

#### 2. Prayer and Pledge of Allegiance

Led by Council Member Whaley.

#### 3. Approval of Minutes from Previous Meeting

##### a) April 19, 2022 – Council Meeting

A motion to approve was offered by Council Member Whaley, seconded by Council Member Taylor, passed unanimously.

##### b) May 2, 2022 – Joint Meeting with County

A motion to approve was offered by Council Member Taylor, seconded by Council Member Bivins, passed unanimously.

##### c) May 2, 2022 – Joint Meeting with DDA

A motion to approve was offered by Council Member Taylor, seconded by Council Member Arp, passed unanimously.

#### 4. Approval of Agenda or Motion to Amend Agenda (if applicable)

A motion to approve the agenda was offered by Council Member Whaley, seconded by Council Member Taylor, passed unanimously.

#### 5. Called Public Hearings (rezoning or appeals authorized by Ordinance)

City Attorney discussed the following ordinance to be voted on:

#### Our Mission Statement

Our mission is to enrich the quality of life in Blue Ridge for all our citizens. We pledge to work in partnership with our residents, all stake holders and the Fannin County government to protect, preserve and secure the quaintness of our small-town community and to enhance the natural beauty of our environment.

- a) AN ORDINANCE (I) TO AMEND CHAPTER 2 ("ADMINISTRATION"), ARTICLE III ("DEPARTMENTS, BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS"), DIVISION 1 ("GENERALLY"), SECTION 2-52 ("DEPARTMENTAL ORGANIZATION") OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF BLUE RIDGE, GEORGIA; (II) TO DELETE DIVISION 2 ("DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL"), DIVISION 3 ("DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE"), DIVISION 4 ("WATER MAINTENANCE DEPARTMENT"), DIVISION 5 ("STREET MAINTENANCE DEPARTMENT"), AND DIVISION 6 ("DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND BUILDING INSPECTION") IN THEIR ENTIRETY; AND (III) TO RENUMBER DIVISION 7 ("CITY PLANNING COMMISSION"), DIVISION 8 ("BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS"), AND DIVISION 9 ("AREA PLANNING COMMISSION"). (SECOND READING)

A motion to approve was offered by Council Member Whaley, seconded by Council Member Taylor, passed unanimously.

BR 2022-15

City Administrator discussed the following item to be voted on:

- b) MOTION TO ACCEPT THE PLANNING COMMISSION'S RECOMMENDATION OF MAY 3, 2022 TO APPROVE THE REZONING OF 78 WEST FAIN STREET (PARCEL BR01 136), OWNED BY LATY, LLC AND BEING APPROXIMATELY 0.38 ACRES, FROM R2 TO C2.

A motion to approve was offered by Council Member Taylor, seconded by Council Member Whaley, passed unanimously.

City Attorney discussed the following ordinance for the first reading:

- c) A ZONING ORDINANCE/ACTION AMENDING THE ZONING MAP OF THE CITY OF BLUE RIDGE, GEORGIA, BY REZONING ONE PARCEL OF LAND WITHIN THE CITY OF BLUE RIDGE, BEING TAX PARCEL BR01 136 OWNED BY LATTY, LLC AND BEING APPROXIMATELY 0.38 ACRES, MORE OR LESS, AS MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED IN THE LIMITED WARRANTY DEED ATTACHED HERETO AND INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE INTO THIS ZONING ORDINANCE ("PROPERTY") AND REZONING THE PROPERTY FROM MEDIUM DENSITY RESIDENTIAL ("R-2") TO GENERAL COMMERCIAL ("C-2"); REPEALING CONFLICTING ZONING ORDINANCES APPLICABLE TO THE PROPERTY; TO PROVIDE FOR SEVERABILITY; TO PROVIDE FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES. (FIRST READING)

City Administrator discussed the following item to be voted on:

- d) MOTION TO ACCEPT THE PLANNING COMMISSION'S RECOMMENDATION OF MAY 3, 2022 TO APPROVE SEARLES FOUNDATION AFFORDABLE HOUSING LAND FUND, LLC TO REZONE A TRACT OF LAND FROM GENERAL COMMERCIAL (C-2) TO HIGH-DENSITY RESIDENTIAL (R-3). A TRACT OF LAND TOTALING 9.08-ACRES LOCATED AT THE INTERSECTION OF BOARDTOWN ROAD AND TRACKSIDE LANE AND IS IDENTIFIED AS TAX PARCEL BR03 033 AND BR03 034.

A motion to approve was offered by Council Member Taylor, seconded by Council Member Whaley, passed unanimously.

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City Attorney discussed the following ordinance for the first reading:

- e) A ZONING ORDINANCE/ACTION AMENDING THE ZONING MAP OF THE CITY OF BLUE RIDGE, GEORGIA, BY REZONING TWO PARCELS OF LAND WITHIN THE CITY OF BLUE RIDGE, BEING TAX PARCELS BR03 033 AND BR03 034 OWNED BY SEARLES FOUNDATION AFFORDABLE HOUSING LAND FUND, LLC AND BEING APPROXIMATELY 9.08 ACRES, MORE OR LESS, AS MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED IN THE LIMITED WARRANTY DEED ATTACHED HERETO AND INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE INTO THIS ZONING ORDINANCE ("PROPERTY") AND REZONING THE PROPERTY FROM GENERAL COMMERCIAL ("C-2") TO HIGH DENSITY RESIDENTIAL ("R-3"); REPEALING CONFLICTING ZONING ORDINANCES APPLICABLE TO THE PROPERTY; TO PROVIDE FOR SEVERABILITY; TO PROVIDE FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES. (FIRST READING)

City Attorney discussed the following ordinance for the first reading:

- f) AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 10 ("BUSINESS REGULATIONS") ARTICLE II ("OCCUPATIONAL TAXES") OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF BLUE RIDGE, GEORGIA TO REASSIGN CERTAIN DUTIES TO THE CITY ADMINISTRATOR OR HIS/HER DESIGNEE; TO CHANGE CERTAIN DEADLINES, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES. (FIRST READING)

#### **6. Consent Agenda**

A motion to approve the consent agenda was offered by Council Member Whaley, seconded by Council Member Taylor, passed unanimously.

- a) A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BLUE RIDGE, STATE OF GEORGIA, TO AMEND RESOLUTION NO. BR 2018-12-11, BY WHICH THE CITY OF BLUE RIDGE CREATED THE DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY OF THE CITY OF BLUE RIDGE, GEORGIA ("DDA"), TO RESTATE AND CLARIFY THE POWERS AND DUTIES CONFERRED UPON THE DDA.
- b) MOTION TO APPROVE A NON-BUDGETED EXPENDITURE OF \$12,400 FOR A KUBOTA ZD1011-3-54 RIDING MOWER WITH NELSON TRACTOR COMPANY, INC.
- c) MOTION TO APPROVE A NON-BUDGETED EXPENDITURE OF \$3,557 FOR THE REPLACEMENT OF POLICE ISSUED HANDGUNS FOR POLICE OFFICERS.

#### **7. Action Agenda Items (Items requiring the approval of the City Council)**

- a) MOTION TO ADOPT COMMUNITY REVITALIZATION PLAN DOCUMENT.

A motion to accept was offered by Council Member Taylor, seconded by Council Member Whaley, passed unanimously.

#### **8. Discussion Agenda Items**

None

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**9. Reports**

- a) Proclamation – Mayor Rhonda Haight presented
- b) Downtown Development Authority Update – No update
- c) Blue Ridge Business Association Update – Offered by Cesar Martinez

**10. Public Comments**

None

**11. Executive Session (if needed)**

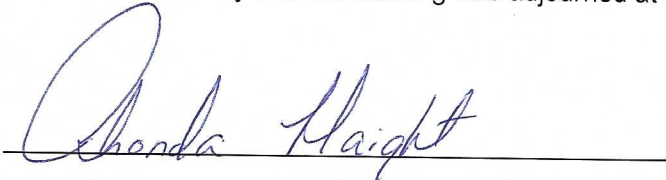
A motion to enter into executive session was offered by Council Member Whaley, seconded by Council Member Taylor, passed unanimously. Executive session opened at 6:02 PM.

A motion to adjourn executive session was offered by Council Member Taylor, seconded by Council Member Whaley, passed unanimously. Executive session adjourned at 6:46 PM.

A motion to take City Clerk Amy Mintz off of the probationary period was offered by Council Member Whaley, seconded by Council Member Taylor, passed unanimously.

**12. Adjournment**

A motion to adjourn was offered by Council Member Whaley, seconded by Council Member Taylor, passed unanimously and the meeting was adjourned at 6:47 PM.



Mayor, Rhonda Haight



City Clerk, Amy Mintz

May 26, 2022

Date



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